

REMARKS

The Examiner indicated that claims 24-30 are allowed. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowed subject matter.

The Examiner indicated that claims 3-7 and 15-19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, in the office action response filed 07/18/2005, Applicants have so rewritten claims 3, 5, 15, and 17 in independent form, so that claims 3-7 and 15-19 should be in proper for allowance.

Claim 16 was amended in the office action response filed 07/18/2005, in response the Examiner's objection to claim 16.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 8-14 and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by "Survey of Computer-Aided Electrical Analysis of Integrated Circuit Interconnections", Ruehli (referred hereafter Ruehli). However, since claims 1-2, 8-14 and 20-23 have been canceled, the rejection of claims 1-2, 8-14 and 20-23 is moot.

CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims and the entire application meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If the Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicants invites the Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below. The Director is hereby authorized to charge and/or credit Deposit Account 09-0457.

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